

What is claimed is:

1. An information relay terminal comprising:

an information receiver that receives information transmitted from an information distribution server that distributes the information or another information relay terminal;

an information transmitter that retransmits the information received; and

a point manager that adds a reward point for receiving and retransmitting the information and that manages compilation of the reward point.

2. The information relay terminal according to claim 1, wherein the terminal receives point information indicating that the reward point is provided for receiving and retransmitting the information.

3. The information relay terminal according to claim 1, wherein the terminal receives point information indicating that a method of providing the reward point, and based on the point information, manages compilation of the reward point.

4. The information relay terminal according to claim 1, wherein content of the information to present differs corresponding to amount of the reward point compiled and managed.

5. The information relay terminal according to claim 1, wherein the terminal obtains a right to acquire or exchange information related to the information received

and retransmitted corresponding to amount of the reward point compiled and managed.

6. The information relay terminal according to claim 1, wherein the information is provided with relay history information, and in receiving new information having the same substance as that of the information already received before retransmitting the information already received, the terminal adds, to the information already received, a piece of the relay history information that is not contained in the information already received among pieces of the relay history information added to the new information.

7. The information relay terminal according to claim 1, further comprising:

15 a transmission control information manager that manages transmission control information to retransmit the information received; and

a transmission controller that controls the information transmitter based on the transmission control information to cause the information transmitter to retransmit the information received.

8. The information relay terminal according to claim 7, wherein the relay history information includes either a relay waiting time to elapse between receiving and retransmitting the information, moving distance or the number of moving steps, or the number of relay times indicative of the limitation number of times the same

information is retransmitted.

9. The information relay terminal according to claim 7, wherein the relay history information is server transfer control information to transmit the information to an information compiling server that compiles the information, and based on the server transfer control information, the transmission controller transmits the information to the information compiling server.

10. The information relay terminal according to claim 9, wherein the server transfer control information includes either the number of relay times the information has been relayed, the number of information relay terminals that have relayed the information, a relay expiration date until which the relay is available, or a server transfer expiration date until which the information is capable of being transferred to the server.

11. The information relay terminal according to claim 7, wherein the terminal receives the relay control information from a control information transmitting server separately from the information.

12. The information relay terminal according to claim 11, wherein the terminal transmits information on a transmission amount of the information received or transmitted to the control information transmitting server.

13. The information relay terminal according to claim 12, wherein when the transmission amount of the

information received or transmitted exceeds a predetermined condition, the terminal transmits the information on the transmission amount of the information to the control information transmitting server.

5 14. The information relay terminal according to claim 1, wherein the terminal adds specific provision information based on the information received to the information received to retransmit.

10 15. The information relay terminal according to claim 1, wherein the information is provided with collection information, and the terminal substitutes compiled information with the collection information and specific provision information based on the information received for the collection information to retransmit.

15 16. The information relay terminal according to claim 15, wherein the provision information is the information on the transmission amount of the information received or transmitted.

17. An information distribution server comprising:  
20 an information manager that stores information substance;

a control information manager that stores control information indicating that a reward point is provided for an information relay terminal receiving and  
25 retransmitting the information;

an information generator that generates information to transmit from the information substance and the control

information; and

an information transmitter that transmits the information generated to the information relay terminal.

18. The information distribution server according to  
5 claim 17, wherein the control information is provided with information indicating a method of providing the reward point for an information relay terminal receiving and retransmitting the information.

19. The information distribution server according to  
10 claim 18, wherein a value of the reward point provided to the information relay terminal differs with a kind of information relay terminal as a transmission destination or a kind of transmission path on which the information is received and transmitted.

15 20. The information distribution server according to claim 17, wherein the information substance is a command for instructing the information relay terminal to provide specific information.

21. An information compiling server comprising:

20 an information receiver that receives information provided with relay history information describing an information relay terminal that has relayed the information received;

an information interpreter that adds a reward point  
25 for the information relay terminal described in the relay history information added to the information received; and

a personal information storage that compiles and manages the reward point.

22. The information compiling server according to claim 21, wherein a value of the reward point provided to the  
5 information relay terminal differs with a kind of information relay terminal as a transmission destination or a kind of transmission path on which the information is received and transmitted.

23. A control information transmitting server  
10 comprising:

a control information manager that stores control information to retransmit received information for information relay for retransmitting the received information; and

15 a control information manager that stores control information for an information relay terminal that retransmits received information to retransmit the received information;

a control information transmitter that transmits  
20 the control information to an information relay terminal.

24. The control information transmitting server according to claim 23, wherein the control information includes either a relay waiting time to elapse between receiving and retransmitting the information, moving  
25 distance or the number of moving steps, or the number of relay times indicative of the limitation number of times the same information is retransmitted.

25. The control information transmitting server according to claim 23, wherein the control information includes server transfer control information for the information relay terminal to transmit the received  
5 information to an information compiling server that compiles the information.

26. The control information transmitting server according to claim 25, wherein the server transfer control information includes either the number of relay times  
10 the information has been relayed, the number of information relay terminals that have relayed the information, a relay expiration date until which the relay is available, or a server transfer expiration date until which the information is capable of being transferred  
15 to the server.

27. The control information transmitting server according to claim 23, wherein the server receives information on a transmission amount from the information relay terminal, and based on the information on the  
20 transmission amount received, changes the control information to transmit to an information relay terminal.

28. A method of relaying information, comprising:  
receiving information transmitted from an  
information distribution server that distributes the  
25 information or another information relay terminal;  
retransmitting the information received; and  
adding a reward point for receiving and

retransmitting the information, and managing compilation of the reward point.

29. A method of distributing information, comprising:  
storing information substance;

5 storing control information indicating that a reward point is provided for an information relay terminal receiving and retransmitting the information;

generating information to transmit from the information substance and the control information; and

10 transmitting the information generated to the information relay terminal.

30. A method of compiling information, comprising:

receiving information provided with relay history information describing an information relay terminal that  
15 has relayed the information received;

adding a reward point for the information relay terminal described in the relay history information added to the information received; and

compiling and managing the reward point.

20 31. A method of transmitting control information, comprising:

storing control information to retransmit received information for information relay for retransmitting the received information; and

25 transmitting the control information to an information relay terminal.